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V. NO. 26

STRATHMORE ALBERTA, APRIL 1, 1914.

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## ELEVATOR ACT EXPLAINED?

W. J. Tregrillus and Secretary Woodbridge  
Address Strathmore Earners

With the object, as he explained of clearing up the misunderstanding which has existed between Strathmore Local of the United Farmers of Alberta and the main body, President W. J. Tregrillus, secretary Woodbridge, on Saturday, addressed the Town Hall, which was crowded almost to suffocation, many being unable to get inside of the hall, and having to be content with "brubbling" from the lobby and stairs.

The debate was of the most informal nature, owing to the defenders of the Elevator Act and its issues, sometimes interrupting each other without the interposition of the chair. Those prominent were, of course, Messrs Tregrillus and Woodbridge, for the defence, with Mr. W. J. Tregrillus, the "hero" of the recent exploit of the act. The chief critics were Messrs Henry Sorensen, M. E. Sly, and T. H. Blackfield, and outside critics who sprang a big lot of pointed questions was Mr. Joe Weir, Park and Alta., who seemed to know more about the working of the Act than either Messrs Tregrillus or Woodbridge.

A large number of points which had not been brought up before were brought out by discussion, but at the same time it is questioned if any of those present were any more convinced than previously of the merits or demerits of the Act, though they acknowledged the courage of Messrs Tregrillus and Woodbridge by giving them a hearty vote of thanks for coming down.

There were several sharp interchanges, and sometimes the debate seemed to be getting somewhat personal, but generally it was conducted with good feeling. Mr. Henry Sorensen presided.

### PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

Mr. Tregrillus, in opening, explained his inability to have been down on 14th inst., owing to the train being delayed. He agreed that it was a good thing for the two factions to get together and thresh out their difficulties. It appeared to him that the whole difficulty was over the question of co-operation, and he explained his ideas as to what he really considered co-operation. It was a principle that was opposed to individualism or corporatism. In the past, he said, individualism had made some advances, but the combines had made greater, and the only way that he could see to fight these combines was co-operation. In co-operation the crowning principle was the one vote, and this principle the co-operative elevator scheme had accepted, and it was the only way that the money in corporations was reversed and the money was put into the hands of the people. It was not with the co-operative elevator scheme. He wanted the people must not expect to get and give nothing, and he termed the co-operative system in all things as applied Christianity.

### CO-OPERATION WANTED

In his address he gave a history of the co-operative movement and showed that to make it successful the right kind of people must be at the head of the system—not men with ulterior motives. He showed that in the Grain Growers' association on account of control, had alleged combines, and in the past year had been taken into 40 and 47 bank into 26. These had all instances into corporations, and the people had to pay the piper.

### IS THE ACT CO-OPERATIVE?

The chairman said they were pleased to have Mr. Tregrillus with them that day. He called on him to speak, which brought Mr. Tregrillus to his feet. Mr. Tregrillus thought the president had not touched on co-operation. Co-operation was associated with an idea, and that idea was the distribution of profits among the patrons. The Alberta company was not co-operative, because it was not founded on this idea.

Mr. Tregrillus said he considered the Alberta Co-operative Society co-operative because it was founded on the principle of one man, one vote and apart altogether from the amount of money a man had invested in it.

### WANTED A CHANCE

Co-operation could not possibly be without best of business methods being embodied in it, and the company he represented had, he thought, embodied the best business methods. They wanted a chance to make good, and he thought the company should be given a fair chance. They could not be blamed altogether for the elevator bill, for it was not framed by them but by the Government. They did not get everything they wanted, but half a loaf was better than no bread.

Under the Elevator Act the Government loaned 85 per cent of the cost of constructing the elevators, and the shareholders paid up the cost of these elevators within four years. The money loaned by the Government was repayable in twenty equal yearly instalments. The shareholders could not get more than 8 per cent on their shares.

Mr. Sorensen contended that this was wrong, because it did not matter where the man was living, whether he did or did not raise grain, he got his dividend. The instructions of the Convention to the directors were that the Act was to be made co-operative, and this had not been done. He did not believe that any Government would dare refuse a demand for a true co-operative institution.

### SORENSEN DENOUNCES

Mr. Freeman had deliberately lied to the convention when he said that the (Sorensen) voted for the Act. He had asked that the minute be shown stating where he had voted for it, but this had not been done. He had also been refused the opportunity to speak on the subject at the Lethbridge convention, though he had been assured that he would be given the right to ask Mr. Freeman some questions. He had also been refused other instances of where the minority had been done out of their rights at Lethbridge. But Freeman (he said) to ask Mr. Freeman why it was necessary to borrow such a large amount from the Government and he replied that the money was needed for a day.

"Freeman, in my opinion, is responsible for the whole mixup of the co-operative movement, to blame only insofar as they let that gentleman run things without checking up on him. Mr. Freeman was behind the whole scheme, and he had done his best to work it in with the Grain Growers' Grain Co."

Mr. Weir gave a number of instances of wrong doing on the part of agents of the company, and Mr. Woodbridge said (Continued on Page 4)

## School Consolidation

At Nightingale

An important step towards consolidation has been taken during the past week by the holding of meetings at Strathmore and at Nightingale in support of the consolidation of the school. A representative of the Department of Education, Mr. McCaig, Edmonton, after carefully reviewing the situation, both from the financial and the educational standpoint, Mr. McCaig stated that his opinion was that both districts were favorably situated for consolidation.

### The Strathmore Meeting

The meeting called by the Strathmore and Alberta Valley School Boards was held in the Town Hall, Strathmore, on Thursday afternoon, with an attendance of about 25, representative of Strathmore, Alberta Valley, and Orange Valley Districts. Mr. John Mackenzie, chairman of Strathmore School Board, presided.

Mr. McCaig, in his opening remarks, said that the Department of Education had seen him to act in an advisory capacity, and to give them assistance in exploring consolidation.

### HISTORY OF CONSOLIDATION

The consolidation School was a new movement in Alberta, and Warner was the one place where the trustees had yet decided to adopt the plan. It had, however, been tried out in Manitoba and Ontario. In Ontario it had been very successful from an educational standpoint, but it was not meeting with unqualified success elsewhere, the people there being very conservative in their ideas, but he believed that there was not the same conservatism in Alberta, the people being willing to try out any scheme that looked practical and beneficial.

In Manitoba the Government was actively encouraging the formation of consolidated schools, and consequently there were a large number in operation. The movement, however, had come to its greatest height in the United States, where there were no less than 18,000 consolidated schools teaching both public school and high school work, and 20,000 public school grade only. In Manitoba the cost of consolidation was estimated at 30 per cent more than the small school system, but the efficiency and attendance was greatly increased.

### BEST TYPE OF SCHOOL

The ordinary country school was very inefficient, and it was not because of any fault of the teachers, but because the range of grades was too great, and a young child could not be left alone for a long time without the assistance of a teacher. The country schools believed that the tendency was the other way, and the child was not allowed enough of his own initiative, in other words, they were spoon fed. The consolidated school, with four or five teachers, teaching grades up to the second or third year high school, combined the advantages of both systems without the defects. The consolidated school should be looked at from a broad point of view. It should be the centre of every movement for the advancement of the district, and it was a phase of the great movement of co-operation that was spreading over the country.

Strathmore was well-situated for a consolidated school, as they had accommodation for several additional classes without much expense in building, and the roads (Continued on last Page)

## "Among the Breakers" At Nightingale

On Wednesday, March 25, a most successful concert and dance was held at Nightingale in support of the consolidation of the school. A crowd of about 125 assembled to witness the dramatic efforts, while about half remained to the dance.

The drama, "Among the Breakers," was rendered with much appreciation from an enthusiastic audience, every one of the ten actors doing full justice to their parts.

Following this was given the "Negro Fable," "Stuck to your Word," by the Misses and Messrs. Hiatt, who attained the achievement of keeping the audience rocking with laughter, flour and water and other ingredients making the social laugh prodigious.

In between acts the audience were entertained by recitations from Mrs. E. M. Longman and music by Mr. J. G. Gethard.

The sincere thanks of the Entertainment Committee and every one present are tendered to all those who gave their time and care to render the Hall attractive, to the ladies who donated refreshments, and especially to Mr. L. W. Hiatt, whose continued energy and ability brought the very new local talent up to a high level of excellence.

Between thirty and forty dollars was added to the Hall Fund, which was good showing for such a stormy and cold night.

A repeat performance will be given in Strathmore Opera House on Wednesday, April 1st at 8:30 p.m., and the committee sincerely trust that they will receive a very hearty support on that occasion, as only a moderate price is charged and eggs are cheap.

### The Stock Markets

Chicago, March 31, 1914.

|         |              |
|---------|--------------|
| Wheat   | 1.00 to 1.05 |
| Barley  | 1.00 to 1.05 |
| Oats    | 1.00 to 1.05 |
| Flour   | 1.00 to 1.05 |
| Corn    | 1.00 to 1.05 |
| Beans   | 1.00 to 1.05 |
| Peas    | 1.00 to 1.05 |
| Lentils | 1.00 to 1.05 |
| Mustard | 1.00 to 1.05 |
| Wheat   | 1.00 to 1.05 |
| Barley  | 1.00 to 1.05 |
| Oats    | 1.00 to 1.05 |
| Flour   | 1.00 to 1.05 |
| Corn    | 1.00 to 1.05 |
| Beans   | 1.00 to 1.05 |
| Peas    | 1.00 to 1.05 |
| Lentils | 1.00 to 1.05 |
| Mustard | 1.00 to 1.05 |

We have in our warehouse the following: Choice white flour, 100 lbs. 1.00; Choice white flour, 50 lbs. 1.00; Choice white flour, 25 lbs. 1.00; Choice white flour, 10 lbs. 1.00; Choice white flour, 5 lbs. 1.00; Choice white flour, 2 lbs. 1.00; Choice white flour, 1 lb. 1.00; Choice white flour, 1/2 lb. 1.00; Choice white flour, 1/4 lb. 1.00; Choice white flour, 1/8 lb. 1.00; Choice white flour, 1/16 lb. 1.00; Choice white flour, 1/32 lb. 1.00; Choice white flour, 1/64 lb. 1.00; Choice white flour, 1/128 lb. 1.00; Choice white flour, 1/256 lb. 1.00; Choice white flour, 1/512 lb. 1.00; Choice white flour, 1/1024 lb. 1.00; Choice white flour, 1/2048 lb. 1.00; Choice white flour, 1/4096 lb. 1.00; Choice white flour, 1/8192 lb. 1.00; Choice white flour, 1/16384 lb. 1.00; Choice white flour, 1/32768 lb. 1.00; Choice white flour, 1/65536 lb. 1.00; Choice white flour, 1/131072 lb. 1.00; Choice white flour, 1/262144 lb. 1.00; Choice white flour, 1/524288 lb. 1.00; Choice white flour, 1/1048576 lb. 1.00; 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